



Flathead County
Emergency Medical Services
Administrative Board

Flathead County EMS
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March 21st 2011

Regular Meeting, Flathead Emergency Communications Center

Members Present

Wayne Miller, MD

Myrt Webb

Jason Spring

Absent

Bob Kun

Velinda Stevens

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Dr. Miller at 2:02p.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION to approve agenda as received, Webb

SECOND, Spring

Approved

Approval of Minutes

MOTION to approve Minutes for January 24th 2011 with modifications, Webb

SECOND, Spring

Approved

Citizen Comments

None

EMS Manager Report – Mary Granger

The meeting with Big Mountain Fire Department about ALERT dispatch to the mountain was completed on Feb. 2, 2011, with Dr. Briles, Dr. Bates, Dr. Miller, Mary Granger and Ben Devall, Chief of Big Mtn. Fire. It was determined that the dispatch guidelines for ALERT were appropriate.

Granger met with FVCC to explore coverage for our students while on their required clinical ride-along with local ambulance companies. It was agreed that as long as they are a registered student in our EMT-B class that they will have professional liability insurance and workman's comp. The price for this will be determined and given to us to plan for the 2011 class and budgeting.

Granger reported that she has the letter from the Commissioners that allows us to keep the Reserve Fund for 2272 at 15%

Granger reported on EMS Today Conference that she and Amanda attended in Baltimore Maryland, March 2-6. They were able to hear several national speakers and attended many

Others Present

Mary Granger

Tom Kennelly

Amanda Norenberg

Lance Westgard

Kris Long

Scott Sampey

Craig Williams

Kris Long

Ben Covington

James Brower

smaller sessions. Each felt that the information gained at this conference can benefit our system in the Flathead.

Granger reported that much energy has been expended with preparation for the OES Mass Casualty Incident. This has been a laborious process in detail planning on the part of Cindy, Scott Miller from the GPIA and many others. She reported that the hospitals in particular and others in general have worked hard to firm up their plans of how to handle this emergency. It will be a great test of our system and its capability to respond to a Mass Casualty of this magnitude and it will provide us with areas to improve, education to share, and objectives to practice.

Miller asked about the American Red Cross CPR updates and how this will affect the providers. Long explained that it takes about two years after an update for the new protocols to circulate.

Sampey explained the fine tuning of the Dispatch QA process. The dispatch center is following the standard NFPA 1220. This describes the time it takes after a call comes in to the time it is dispatched. The standard is 1 minute.

The Board collectively would like to see a report detailing the time of dispatch to the time on scene.

Medical Directors Update – Richard Briles, MD Dr. Briles Absent

Advisory Committee Report – Kris Long

Long expressed the Committee met on Feb 14th 2011. The Committee received notice from the County attorney's office that the Board does not have the legal authority to request an audit of the unit's finances. The Committee did agree on random audits of call volume. The committee and Dr. Briles discussed new protocols including the ability of a BLS unit to call off an enroute ALS unit. And an ALS intercept policy specific to certain calls that would impact patient care. D. Briles has updated and distributed the County wide EMS Protocols. Future business will include the possibility of centralized purchasing of BLS drugs.

Miller expressed the idea of "mass purchasing" and centralized supply and billing were a piece of the visioning process done with the user group prior to this Board.

Spring explained North Valley Hospital's intention to purchase drugs at cost using a 340b status. This might be something to consider while making the plans for mass purchasing.

Funding Formula - Granger

Granger expressed concern about the funding formula. She will meet with the Advisory Committee to examine whether the formula needs to be restructured to better address the needs of the transport agencies. The Advisory Committee will meet April 11, 2011 at 5:00 at the 911 Center. They will report their findings back to the Board in the April meeting.

Webb was surprised to hear that the operational amount paid for transports is the same as the amount paid for non-transport groups.

Kalispell Ambulance - Granger

Kalispell Fire Department may be required to decrease staffing which may eliminate the Kalispell Fire Department Ambulance. This will drastically affect the EMS system. At this time we have no official information on the status of Kalispell Fire and Ambulance.

Webb expressed concern about the mill distribution and the future of the City of Kalispell's Ambulance service.

Spring suggested that the Board be proactive and have a plan for the discontinuation of Kalispell Ambulance and prehospital care.

Webb asked Granger to speak to Jane Howington (Kalispell City Manager) regarding the Ambulance service.

Budget Review

Granger explained the changes to the budget including the added line items to reflect building costs.

Other Business/future Agenda Requests

None

Board Member Comments

Webb would like to see some type of data reflecting the ambulance services and the record of time from dispatch to time en route.

Miller explained to the members of the Board that the New World dispatch system has taken some time to program and learn. The consolidation of this system has created tension for all involved. The data retrieval is a tool that will be available in the future.

Spring would like the data to be useful and meaningful.

Webb suggested hiring a consultant to build the New World reports needed by EMS.

Executive Session – Personnel 3:35p

Meeting Adjourned 3:50p